Operating Instructions

STEREO DOUBLE CASSETTE TAPE DECK AMPLIFIER

DC-X55Z/DC-555Z

STEREO CASSETTE TAPE DECK AMPLIFIER

DC-X33Z/DC-333Z

FM/AM DIGITAL SYNTHESIZER TUNER

F-X55Z/F-X55ZL/TX-555Z/TX-555ZL

AM/FM STEREO TUNER

F-X33Z/F-X33ZL/TX-333Z/TX-333ZL

STEREO TURNTABLE

PL-X55Z/PL-X33Z/PL-555Z/PL-333Z

Thank you for buying this Pioneer product.
Please read through these operating instructions so you will know how to operate your model properly. After you have finished reading the instructions, put them away in a safe place for future reference.
In some countries or regions, the shape of the power plug and power outlet may sometimes differ from that shown in the explanatory drawings. However, the method of connecting and operating the unit is the same.

WARNING: TO PREVENT FIRE OR SHOCK HAZARD, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

[For U.S. and Canadian models]

The serial number for this equipment is located on the rear panel. Please write this serial number on your enclosed warranty card and keep in a secure area. This is for your security.

[For Canadian model]

CAUTION: TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT USE THIS (POLARIZED) PLUG WITH AN EXTENSION CORD, RECEPTACLE OR OTHER OUTLET UNLESS THE BLADES CAN BE FULLY INSERTED TO PREVENT BLADE EXPOSURE.

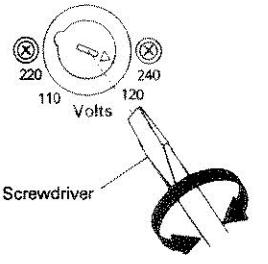
ATTENTION: POUR PREVENIR LES CHOCS ELECTRIQUES NE PAS UTILISER CETTE FICHE POLARISEE AVEC UN PROLONGATEUR UNE PRISE DE COURANT OU UNE AUTRE SORTIE DE COURANT, SAUF SI LES LAMES PEUVENT ETRE INSEREES A FOND SANS EN LAISSER AUCUNE PARTIE A DECOUVERT.

LINE VOLTAGE SELECTOR SWITCH

Only multi-voltage models are provided with this switch. U.S., Canadian, European, U.K., and Australian models are not provided with this switch.

Before your model is shipped from the factory, the switch is set to the power requirements of the destination; nevertheless, you should check that it is set properly before plugging the power cord into the AC outlet.

1. Disconnect the power cord.
2. Use a medium size screwdriver.
3. Insert the screwdriver into the groove on the voltage selector and adjust to the voltage value of your area.



These operating instructions cover all the models above.
Refer to the items corresponding to your model.

"This product is manufactured to comply with the radio interference requirements of EEC Directive 76/889/EEC and 82/499/EEC."

CONTENTS

Initial Turntable Set-up 3
Connections 3
Antenna Connection 4
AM/FM Channel Step Switch 5
Front Panel Facilities 5
Graphic Equalizer Controls 8
Cassette Tapes 9
Basic Operations 10
Tape Dubbing (Editing) 12
Copying Tapes 13
Relay Playback 14
Mic Mixing for Singing Along with Recorded Accompaniment 14
Music Search 15
Surround System 15
Recording and Playback Using the Audio Timer 16
Maintenance 16
Troubleshooting 17
Specifications 18

PIONEER®

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

READ INSTRUCTIONS — All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the appliance is operated.

RETAIN INSTRUCTIONS — The operating instructions should be retained for future reference.

HEED WARNING — All warnings on the appliance and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.

FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS — All operating and use instructions should be followed.

WATER AND MOISTURE — The appliance should not be used near water — for example, near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool, etc.

LOCATION — The appliance should be installed in a stable location.

WALL OR CEILING MOUNTING — The appliance should not be mounted to a wall or ceiling.

VENTILATION — The appliance should be situated so that its location or position does not interfere with its proper ventilation. For example, the appliance should not be situated on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface that may block the ventilation openings; or, placed in a built-in installation, such as a bookcase or cabinet that may impede the flow of air through the ventilation openings.

HEAT — The appliance should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other appliances (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

POWER SOURCES — The appliance should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the appliance.

POWER-CORD PROTECTION — Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the appliance.

POLARIZATION — If your purchased product is provided with a polarized power plug, please read the following instructions. This product is equipped with a polarized alternating current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.

CLEANING — The appliance should be cleaned only with a polishing cloth or a soft dry cloth. Never clean with furniture wax, benzine, insecticides or other volatile liquids since they may corrode the cabinet.

POWER LINES — An outdoor antenna should be located away from power lines.

NONUSE PERIODS — The power cord of the appliance should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.

OBJECT AND LIQUID ENTRY — Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the enclosure through openings.

DAMAGE REQUIRING SERVICE — The appliance should be serviced by Pioneer authorized service center or qualified service personnel when:

- The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged; or
- Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the appliance; or
- The appliance has been exposed to rain; or
- The appliance does not appear to operate normally or exhibits a marked change in performance; or
- The appliance has been dropped; or the enclosure damaged.

SERVICING — The user should not attempt to service the appliance beyond that described in the operating instructions. For all other servicing, contact the nearest Pioneer authorized service center.

OUTDOOR ANTENNA GROUNDING — If an outside antenna is connected to the antenna terminal, be sure the antenna system is grounded so as to provide some protection against voltage surges and built up static charges.

In the U.S.A. section 810 of the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA No. 70-1984, provides information with respect to proper grounding of the mast and supporting structure, grounding of the lead-in wire to an antenna discharge unit, size of grounding conductors, location of antenna-discharge unit, connection to grounding electrodes, and requirements for the grounding electrode. See Fig. A.

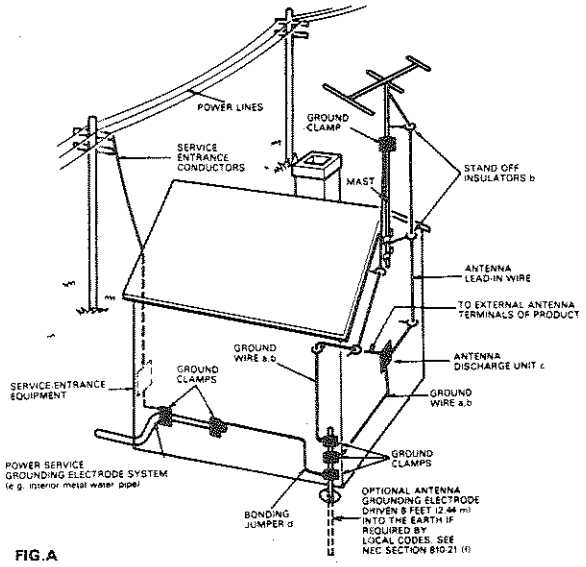

POWER LINES
GROUND CLAMP
SERVICE ENTRANCE CONDUCTORS
MAST
STAND OFF INSULATORS b
ANTENNA LEAD-IN WIRE
TO EXTERNAL ANTENNA TERMINALS OF PRODUCT
GROUND WIRE a,b
ANTENNA DISCHARGE UNIT c
GROUND CLAMPS
SERVICE-ENTRANCE EQUIPMENT
GROUND WIRE a,b
GROUND CLAMPS
POWER SERVICE GROUNDING ELECTRODE SYSTEM (e.g. interior metal water pipe)
OPTIONAL ANTENNA GROUNDING ELECTRODE DRIVEN 8 FEET (2.44 m) INTO THE EARTH IF REQUIRED BY LOCAL CODES. SEE NEC SECTION 810-21 (f)
BONDING JUMPER d

FIG.A

a) Use No. 10 AWG (5.3 mm²) copper, No. 8 AWG (8.4 mm²) aluminum, No. 17 AWG (1.0 mm²) copper-clad steel, bronze wire, or larger as ground wire.

b) Secure antenna lead-in and ground wires to house with stand-off insulators spaced from 4 feet (1.22 meters) to 6 feet (1.83 meters) apart.

c) Mount antenna discharge unit as closely as possible to where lead-in enters house.

d) Use jumper wire not smaller than No.6 AWG (13.3 mm²) copper or equivalent when separate antenna-grounding electrode is used.

IMPORTANT 1

The lightning flash with arrowhead, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user of the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

CAUTION:
TO PREVENT THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user of the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

IMPORTANT 2

If the apparatus is fitted with AC mains power outlet(s), see REAR PANEL FACILITIES for convenient connection of additional Hi-Fi component(s). Make all connections to the AC outlet(s) and the signal terminals first. Connect the plug to the wall socket last, make sure that the power switch is off. Disconnect the wall plug when the equipment is not in (regular) use, e.g. when on vacation.

FOR USE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The wires in this mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Blue: Neutral
Brown: Live

As the colours of the wires in the mains lead of this apparatus may not correspond with the coloured marking identifying the terminals in your plug proceed as follows:

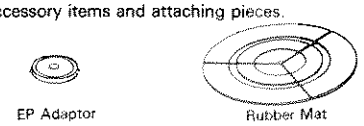
The wire which is coloured blue must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter N or coloured black.

The wire which is coloured brown must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter L or coloured red.

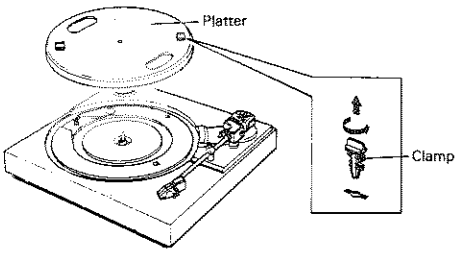
Equipment sold in the U.K. is not supplied with a power plug.

INITIAL TURNTABLE SET-UP

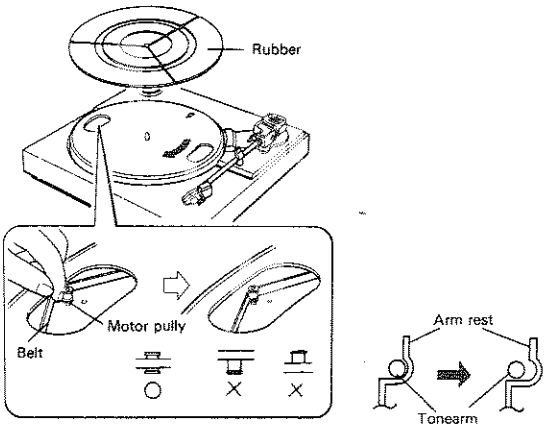
1. Check accessory items and attaching pieces.



2. Remove the clamps (2) and lift off the platter. To remove the clamps, twist them in the direction indicated in the illustration, and lift them straight up.



3. Hook the turntable drive belt over your finger.
4. Set the platter onto the turntable so that the platter shaft passes through it. Hook the drive belt over the motor pully. Rotate the platter a few times by hand to make sure that the belt is correctly in place.



5. Place the rubber mat on top of the platter.
6. Remove the band securing the tonearm.
7. Disconnect the tonearm from the arm rest.
8. Remove the stylus guard.

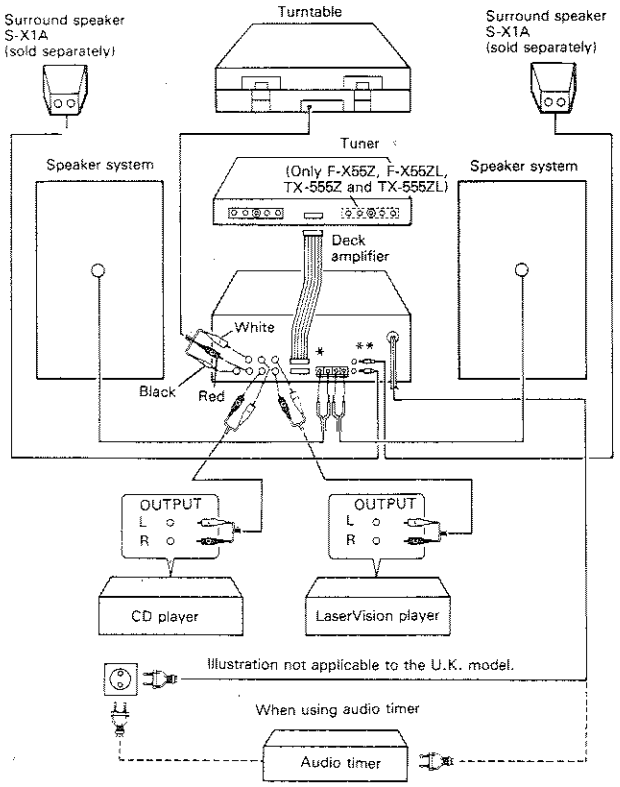
CONNECTIONS

For details, refer to ANTENNA INSTALLATION on page 4 for the connection of the FM and AM antennas.

Perform connections by matching the colors of the connecting cords.

Before performing connections, turn off the power switch of the cassette tape deck amplifier.
Insert the plugs as far as they will go. An improper connection or poor contact will result in no sound, or will degrade the sound.
Connect the white plug to the left channel and the red plug to the right channel.
For the sake of convenience, the expression "turntable legs" is abbreviated in the instructions.

(Do not install the turntable until all wiring connections are completed).



* Push in the plug of the Tuner input/output cord firmly until it locked into place.

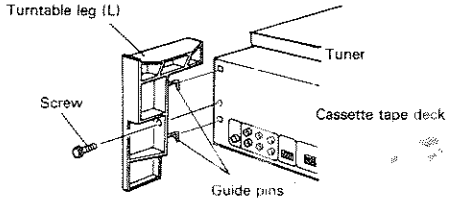
** Do not connect speakers other than surround speakers to the surround system speaker terminals.

Attaching the legs of the turntable (Only DC-X55Z and DC-X33Z)

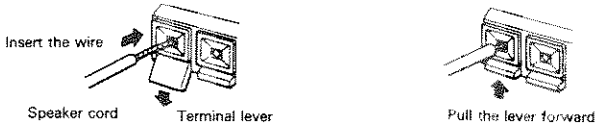
Perform connections by matching the colors of the connecting cords.
Attach the legs accompanying the turntable to the rear panel of the cassette deck amplifier.

- Be sure to attach the left (L) and right (R) legs to their proper positions.

1. Insert the guide pins on the legs into the holes in the back of the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Fasten the legs in place with the screws provided.
3. After connecting the antenna, mount the turntable securely on top of the legs.



CONNECTING THE SPEAKER CORDS



- Make sure that the speaker cords are securely in place.

CHECKING THE ACCESSORIES

Cassette deck amplifier
Only DC-X55Z and DC-X33Z

Turntable legs 2
Screws 2

FM/AM Tuner

AM loop antenna 1

T-type antenna 1

Tuner input/output cord 1

ANTENNA CONNECTION

Radio reception is not possible unless the antenna is properly connected.

The strength of broadcast signals varies from one area to another (signal propagation is especially poor in metropolitan areas where there are many tall buildings and in mountainous areas). Proper antenna installation is vital to good reception.

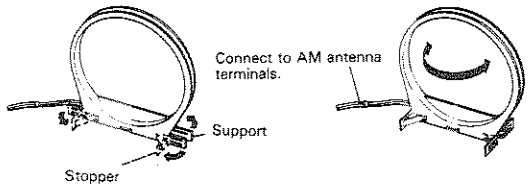
AM ANTENNA

The AM loop antenna supplied with the tuner should be connected to the AM antenna terminals. The antenna should be placed at a distance from the tuner, and should not be allowed to touch metallic objects. Avoid placing it near CD players, personal computers, television sets, and other devices generating radio frequencies.

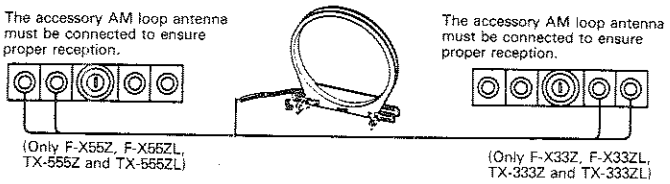
Setting Up the AM Antenna

- Fold out the supports on the bottom of the antenna. Insert the stopper in the hole in the antenna to lock them in place.
- Place the antenna on a level surface and rotate it to locate the orientation that yields the best reception.

AM Loop Antenna Set-up



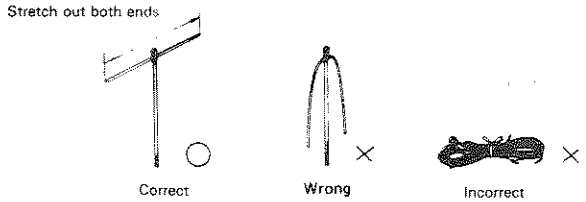
AM Loop Antenna Connection

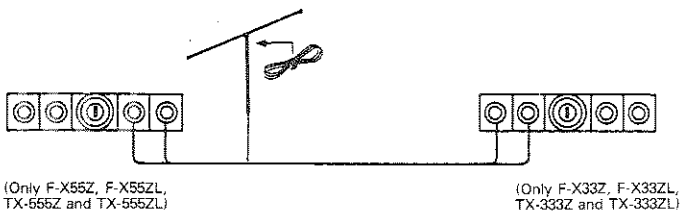

The accessory AM loop antenna must be connected to ensure proper reception.
The accessory AM loop antenna must be connected to ensure proper reception.
(Only F-X55Z, F-X55ZL, TX-555Z and TX-555ZL)
(Only F-X33Z, F-X33ZL, TX-333Z and TX-333ZL)

FM ANTENNA

FM T-type Antenna Attachment

Connect the accessory FM T-type antenna to the FM terminals. Stretch the antenna out to its full length, and affix it to a wall, etc.

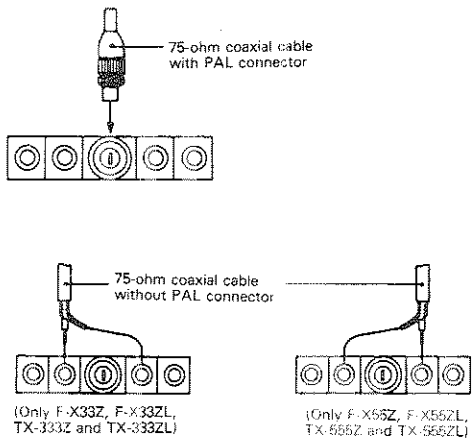




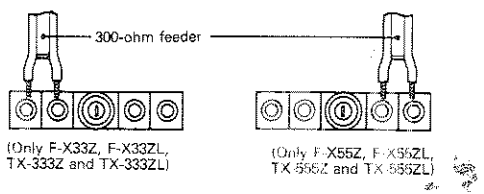
EXTERNAL FM ANTENNA INSTALLATION

Use an external antenna when the signals from the station are weak and cannot be picked up by the accessory T-type FM antenna, or when the sound heard is accompanied by large amounts of noise. There are two ways of connecting the external FM antenna to the ANTENNA terminals: with 300-ohm feeder wire, or with a 75-ohm coaxial cable.
It is recommended that you use the 75-ohm coaxial cable so that the effects of extraneous noise are reduced to a minimum.

When the connecting cable is a 75-ohm coaxial cable


75-ohm coaxial cable with PAL connector
75-ohm coaxial cable without PAL connector
(Only F-X33Z, F-X33ZL, TX-333Z and TX-333ZL)
(Only F-X55Z, F-X55ZL, TX-555Z and TX-555ZL)

When the connecting cable is a 300-ohm feeder wire



ARB1001>

AM/FM CHANNEL STEP SWITCH [only F-X55Z and TX-555Z]

This switch not provided on models for use in Europe, North America, or Australia. (Provided only on models stamped "Z/E" on packing case.)
The AM/FM channel step switch is located on the rear panel of the digital synthesizer tuner. Before the tuner leaves the factory, this switch is set to the channel allotment plan of the area in which the tuner is sold. When the TUNING switch is given a single push, the frequency display will change in the following units.

Model destination	CHANNEL STEP switch position	Frequency change	
		FM mode	AM mode
Continental U.S.A.	100 kHz/10 kHz	100 kHz	10kHz
Other countries	50 kHz/9 kHz	50 kHz	9 kHz

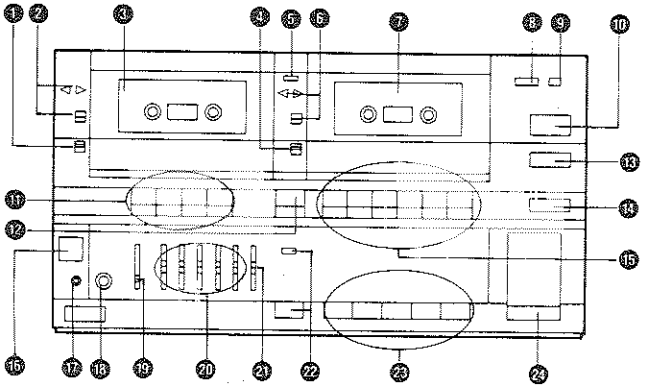
NOTE:
- *If the TUNING switch is held in the depressed position, the frequency display will change continuously and stop when the switch is released.*
- *If the switch is set to the wrong position, correct tuning will not be possible.*

Consult your dealer if you are not sure about the channel allotment plan in your area.

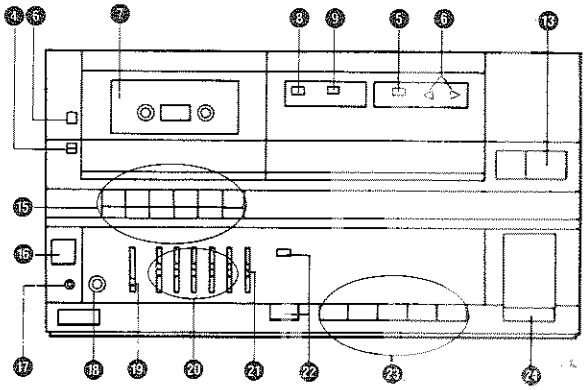
FRONT PANEL FACILITIES

STEREO CASSETTE TAPE DECK AMPLIFIER

The illustration shows model DC-X55Z. The operation of DC-555Z is the same as that of DC-X55Z.



The illustration shows model DC-X33Z. The operation of DC-333Z is the same as that of DC-X33Z.



[CASSETTE TAPE DECK]
- This unit is provided with an automatic tape selector function.
- This unit is a forward mode priority auto-reverse deck. Both recording and playback always start in the forward direction.
  If you press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch during reverse playback, the head for forward playback will be reselected automatically.

❸ REVERSE MODE switch

Sets the reverse mode for the playback-only deck.

Switch positions:	Play
⟲	Continuous play
⊃	Reverse play

Continuous playback is automatically stopped after 8 round trips. Note that it will be counted as one reversal if the tape direction is changed using the direction switch. (One round trip will be counted if the switch is pressed twice.)

❷ Direction switch/indicator (DIRECTION)

Depress to set the playback direction of the playback-only deck. Direction change can only be performed during playback.

▷ ... Lights when forward mode is selected.
◁ ... Lights when reverse mode is selected.

❶ Cassette compartment (Playback only)

❹ REVERSE MODE switch

Sets the reverse mode for the record/play deck.

Switch positions	Play	Record
⟲ ⊃	Continuous play	Double-side recording
⊃ —	Reverse play	Single-side recording

Continuous playback is automatically stopped after 8 round trips. Note that it will be counted as one reversal if the tape direction is changed using the direction switch. (One round trip will be counted if the switch is pressed twice.)

❺ Recording indicator (REC)

▭ ... Lights during recording. Flashes during tape copying. (DC-X55Z and DC-555Z only)

❻ Direction switch/indicator (DIRECTION)

Depress to set the recording and playback direction of the record/play deck. Direction change can be performed during recording, playback or pause.

▷ ... Lights when forward mode is selected. Flashes if tape travel is stopped during reverse recording.
◁ ... Lights when reverse mode is selected.

❼ Cassette compartment (Recording and playback)

❽ TAPE COUNTER (Record/play deck.)

3-digit display measures tape travel on record/play deck.

❾ TAPE COUNTER RESET button

⑭ COPY SPEED switch

Press to set the copy mode.

■ NORMAL ... Permits you to listen to playback normally during dubbing (normal speed copying)
■ HIGH ... High speed dubbing (double-speed, half-time copying)

⑮ Playback-only switches

◁▷ (PLAY) . Forward or reverse mode playback.
≪ (FAST) ..... Rewind in forward mode, fast forward in reverse mode.
≫ (FAST) ..... Fast forward in forward mode, rewind in reverse mode.
■/⏏ (STOP/EJECT) ... Stops tape travel. Ejects cassette if pressed when tape is stopped.

⑯ Synchronized copy switch (SYNCHRO COPY)

Press to start copying from Deck I to Deck II. Set the copying speed (NORMAL or HIGH) using the COPY SPEED switch.

- Press this switch only after you have set the COPY SPEED switch as desired. If this switch is pressed first, the speed cannot afterwards be changed, even if the COPY SPEED switch position is later changed.

⑰ Dolby NR switch

Press to activate noise reduction system. Use to play back tapes recorded using Dolby B NR noise reduction.

- Tapes recorded using Dolby B NR noise reduction should always be played back with the noise reduction system on. Sound quality will be adversely affected if they are played back with the system off, or if tapes recorded using a different noise reduction system are played back with the Dolby B NR system on.
- It is recommeded that tapes recorded using Dolby B NR be so marked on the label. This will help to prevent incorrect setting of the noise reduction switch during playback.

Noise reduction manufactured under license from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.
"Dolby" and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

⑱ Recording mute switch (REC MUTE)

Use to create blank intervals on a tape during recording. Works only while held depressed.

⑲ Record/Playback switches

● (REC) ..... Record
◁▷ (PLAY) .. Playback in forward or reverse mode.
≪ (FAST) ..... Rewind in forward mode, fast forward in reverse mode.
≫ (FAST) ..... Fast forward in forward mode, rewind in reverse mode.
■/⏏ (STOP/EJECT) .. Stops tape travel. Ejects cassette if pressed when tape is stopped.
▮▮ (PAUSE) .... Temporarily stops tape travel. Cancels pause mode when pressed again.

[AMPLIFIER/GRAPHIC EQUALIZER]

㉕ Power switch (POWER)

㉖ Headphone jack (PHONES)

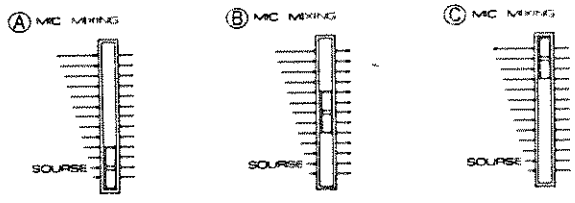
For miniature stereo phone plug.

㉗ Microphone jack (MIC)

For standard phone plug.

㉘ Mic Mixing Controls (MIC MIXING)

Adjusts balance between mic volume and volume of other input sources.



Source input emphasized

To listen to the sound from a microphone mixed with that of a radio broadcast or tape playback:

Mic input emphasized

NOTE:

- *Set the control to the SOURCE position as shown in Fig. A when not using a microphone.*
- *Source volume is cut by about 1/100 when control is set to the MIC position.*

㉙ Graphic equalizer controls (GRAPHIC EQUALIZER)

Fine adjustments in sound quality are possible using the 5 controls on the graphic equalizer.

㉚ BALANCE control

㉛ SURROUND/STEREO WIDE switch/indicator

By using this function, the sounds from stereo sources will be given new breadth, reproducing the effect of concert hall presence.

NOTE:
Stereo Wide sound has no effect on monaural sources (AM broadcasts, etc.).

㉜ Function switches (FUNCTION)

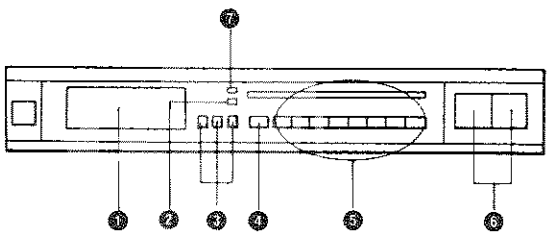
Press the button corresponding to the desired program source.

TUNER ..... Press to listen to radio.
VIDEO ..... Press to listen to component (Hi-Fi VCR, laser disc player, etc.) connected to the auxiliary input jacks.
CD ..... Press to listen to CD player.
PHONO ..... Press to listen to turntable.
TAPE ..... Press to listen to tape playback.

㉝ Volume Control (VOLUME)

DIGITAL SYNTHESIZER TUNER: F-X55Z/F-X55ZL TX-555Z/TX-555ZL

The illustration shows model F-X55ZL.



NOTE:
The illustration is of the model for use in continental European and the U.K.

❶ FREQUENCY display

Permits reading the received frequency at a glance from the displayed figure. The FM band is indicated by MHz, and the AM (MW or LW) band by kHz.

❷ STEREO indicator

This lights when a stereo program has been picked up during an FM broadcast.

❸ FUNCTION switch

MW: Push to receive MW band broadcasts.
LW: Push to receive LW band broadcasts.
FM: Push to receive FM band broadcasts.

Only AM/FM switching is available for models F-X55Z and TX-555Z.

❹ MEMORY switch

Push to operate the memory circuit. After the switch is pressed, the memory circuit will function for about ten seconds. During this time, press one of the STATION CALL switches to memorize the station being currently received. If more than ten seconds elapse after the MEMORY switch is pressed, no stations can be memorized. In this case, press the MEMORY switch again if you wish to memorize a station.

❺ STATION CALL switches

These are used to preset and recall broadcasting stations. A total of 16 stations can be preset [FM: 8, AM (MW or LW): 8].

- To tune in to a prememorized station, push the appropriate STATION CALL switch.
- Once the stations have been preset, all you have to do to recall them is push the STATION CALL switch.

❻ TUNING switches

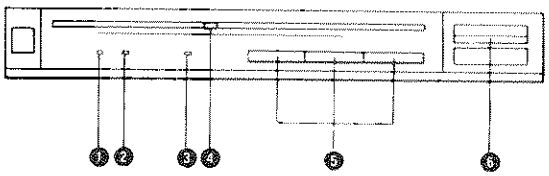
These are used to locate the stations. Push either of these two switches; the left switch "−" to go to a lower, and the right switch "+" to go to a higher frequency.

❼ TUNED indicator

This lights to indicate when the finest tuning of a station has been achieved.

STEREO TUNER F-X33Z/F-X33ZL TX-333Z/TX-333ZL

The illustration shows model F-X33ZL.



NOTE:
The illustration is of the model for use in continental Europe and the U.K.

❶ POWER indicator

❷ TUNED indicator

This lights up to indicate when finest tuning of a station has been achieved.

❸ STEREO indicator

This lights when a stereo program has been picked up during an FM broadcast.

❹ Dial pointer

❺ Function switch

MW: Push to receive MW band broadcasts.
LW: Push to receive LW band broadcasts.
FM: Push to receive FM band broadcasts.

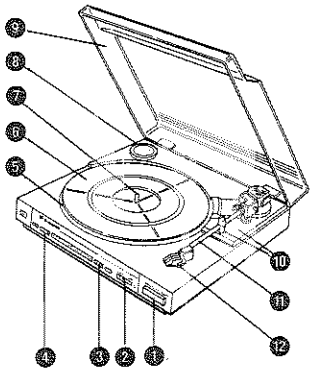
Only AM/FM switching is available for models F-X33Z and TX-333Z.

❻ Tuning knob

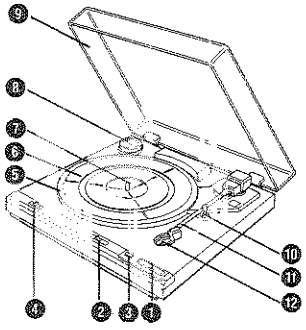
Rotate this knob to pick up stations.

TURNTABLE: PL-X55Z/PL-X33Z/PL-555Z/PL-333Z

Model PL-X55Z



Model PL-555Z



⓭ START/STOP switch (only PL-X55Z and PL-555Z)
Press this switch when starting auto play or when stopping play.
NOTE:
Be sure to press the switch firmly when starting playback; if not pressed firmly, the platter may rotate without the tonearm moving.

⓮ CUT switch (only PL-X33Z), STOP switch (only PL-333Z)
Press this switch when stopping play.

❷ ARM ELEVATION switch
- Use the switch for manual play.
- Use the switch to suspend record play temporarily.
- Use the switch when changing the tracks during actual play.

[UP]: The tonearm rises (the stylus moves away from the record).
[DOWN]: The tonearm descends (the stylus is lowered onto the record).

❸ DISC SIZE switch (only PL-X55Z), SIZE switch (only PL-555Z)
Set this switch in accordance with the size of the record.
30: For 30 cm LP records. 17: for 17 cm EP records.

❹ SPEED switch
Set this switch in accordance with the speed of the record.
33: For 33-1/3 rpm records. 45: For 45 rpm records.

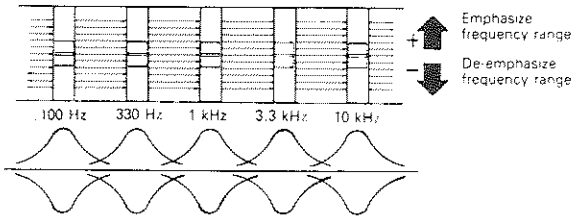
❺ Platter
❻ Rubber mat
❼ Platter shaft
❽ EP adaptor
❾ Dust cover
❿ Arm rest
⓫ Tonearm
⓬ Cartridge

NOTE:
PL-X33Z and PL-333Z are not equipped with switch ⓮.

GRAPHIC EQUALIZER CONTROLS

The advantage of the GRAPHIC EQUALIZER over conventional tone controls is that with the five controls of the GRAPHIC EQUALIZER it is possible to control five different narrow, distinct sections of the audio band width by up to ±8 dB. With conventional tone controls a setting for a bass or treble boost or cut will also affect the lower or upper mid frequencies. The frequency bands controlled by the five slide controls have been chosen to yield the maximum possible control action within the audio spectrum.

100 Hz: The 100 Hz control is very useful in enhancing low bass notes as in organ music.
330 Hz: The 330 Hz control will allow you to vary the upper bass frequencies.
1 kHz: The 1 kHz control is the presence control and can be used very effectively to emphasize, or de-emphasize vocalists.
3.3 kHz: The 3.3 kHz control will add brilliance and clarity to brass instruments and violins.
10 kHz: The 10 kHz control can be used to make up for missing high frequencies absorbed by the environment and to add a natural crispness to music.



HOW TO HANDLE CASSETTE TAPES

Bear in mind the following points before loading cassette tapes.

Is the tape loose, or is some of the tape outside the cassette?

If some of the tape is projecting outside the cassette shell or if it is loose, it may not enter between the capstan and pinch roller. This will prevent the tape from being supplied or damage the tape itself. In cases like these, insert a pencil into the reel hole and take up the slack.
Some cassette tapes come with a plastic or thick paper stopper which prevents tape slack. Remove this stopper when loading the tape and replace it after having used the cassette.

What are the accidental erasure prevention tabs for?

A cassette is provided with these tabs so that important or otherwise valuable recordings will not be erased accidentally. When the tab (Fig. B) on the cassette shell is broken out with the tip of a screwdriver, it will not be possible to activate the recording function even by pressing the recording (REC) switch, so valuable recordings will not be erased in error.
To re-record on a cassette whose tabs have been broken out, simply stick a piece of doubled adhesive tape over the tab areas, as shown in Fig. C.

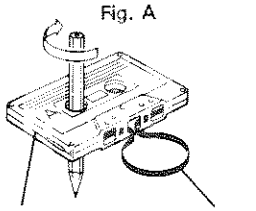
NOTE:
The accidental erasure prevention tabs are located at the top left on both sides A and B (1 or 2), so that material on each side can be prevented from being erased in error.

Tips on using cassette tapes

- Leader tape (which does not allow sound to be recorded over it) is provided at the beginning of a cassette tape. Start recording after allowing the tape to run for about 5 seconds so that the leader tape clears the recording head.
- Do not leave a cassette tape exposed to the environment. Store the cassette in its case so that dust and dirt do not adhere to the tape after use, and so that the tape is prevented from becoming slack. Choose a location which is not exposed to the effects of magnetism, dust, dirt and oil for storing the tapes.
- Because C-120 tapes are so thin, they easily jam in the pinch roller and capstan, and they are susceptible to other trouble such as irregular winding. Try not to use them with this unit.

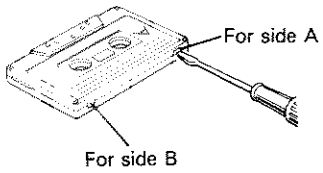
How to take up tape slack

Fig. A



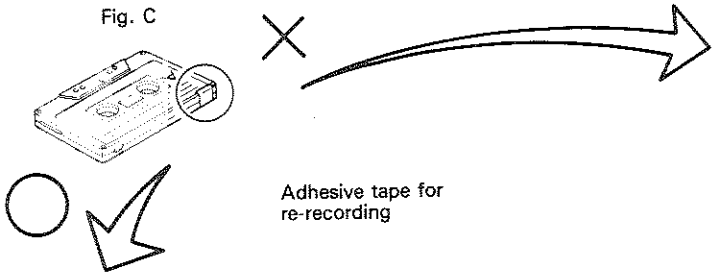
How to prevent already recorded tapes from being erased

Fig. B



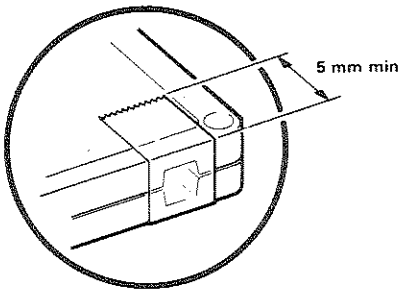
NOTE FOR RE-RECORDING ON A CASSETTE TAPE WHICH HAS A BROKEN TAB/

Fig. C



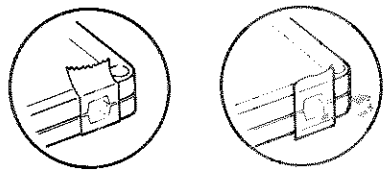
CORRECT METHOD OF APPLYING TAPE

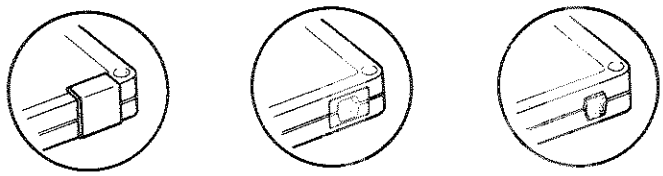
- **Apply two layers of cellophane tape.**
- **Apply the tape taut so that it does not rise up.**



INCORRECT METHOD OF APPLYING TAPE

THIS MAY RESULT IN AN ACCIDENT





Apply vinyl tape, gum tape, or other tape apart from cellophane tape./

Apply to top portion only.

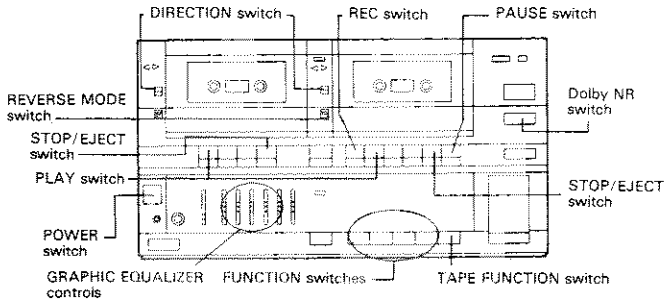
Insert an eraser, or the like.

After removing the cellophane tape, completely wipe away all traces of paste. Use only alcohol or benzine.

BASIC OPERATIONS

DECK AMPLIFIER

The illustration shows model DC-X55Z.
The operation of a single deck is the same as that of Deck II.



- Set the cassette tape deck amplifier's POWER switch to ON. The direction indicator will light.
- Adjust the volume with the VOLUME control and tone with the GRAPHIC EQUALIZER controls on the cassette tape deck amplifier.

NORMAL PLAYBACK STARTING IN THE FORWARD DIRECTION (Playback-only deck and Record/play deck)

Tapes may be played back on either Deck I or Deck II. However, playback on both decks at the same time is not possible. If the PLAY (◀▶) switch on one deck is pressed during playback on the other deck, continuous playback will be initiated. For details, see the "Relay Playback" section.

1. Load a pre-recorded cassette tape.
2. Press the TAPE FUNCTION switch.
3. Select the DOLBY NR setting.
4. Press the PLAY (◀▶) switch.
   - Press the PLAY (◀▶) switch of the deck into which the tape is loaded.
5. To stop playback, press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch.

PLAYBACK STARTING IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION

1. Perform steps 1 — 3 of "Normal Playback starting in the Forward Direction."
2. Press the PLAY (◀▶) switch.
   - Playback starts in the forward mode.
3. Press the DIRECTION switch to change to the reverse mode. (The DIRECTION indicator will show ◁.)

NOTE:
STOP EJECT (■/⏏)
- *After pressing this switch to stop the tape, allow time for the tape heads to retract fully before pressing it again to eject the tape. The tape compartment door may hit the heads and jam, making it impossible to remove the tape.*

Continuous playback:
- *During continuous playback, tape playback will continue for eight full plays (including forward and reverse), after which the unit will stop automatically; in this case, however, the PLAY switch (◀▶) will remain in the depressed position.*

CASSETTE TAPE RECORDING

The graphic equalizer can be used to modify the source sound for recording. In addition, mic mixing output can also be recorded. Note that these features cannot be used during tape copying.

PRECAUTION:
- After an auto-stop takes place at the tape end during recording, withdraw the tape. (Note that if you switch the unit OFF and then ON again without withdrawing the tape, recording will start again.)
- Do not press the REC switch (●) when the right-side Direction Indicator is flashing; press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch, then remove the tape.

NORMAL RECORDING STARTING IN THE FORWARD DIRECTION (Record/play deck only)

You can record signals that have been modified using the graphic equalizer, as well as microphone input mixed with another input source. Neither of these are possible, though, during tape copying.

1. Load a non-recorded cassette tape in the record/play deck.
2. Press the FUNCTION switch corresponding to the program source to be recorded (TUNER, CD, PHONO, VIDEO).
3. Select the DOLBY NR setting.
4. Start playback of the program source.
5. If so desired, set the graphic equalizer controls to modify the signal to be recorded.
6. Press the REC (●) switch.
   - The REC indicator will light.
7. Adjust the playback volume to the desired level.

PAUSING AND RESTARTING RECORDING

8. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch.
   - Recording will be suspended.
9. To restart recording again,
   - Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch again.

STOPPING RECORDING

10. Press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch.
11. Press again to eject the tape.

NOTE:
- *At the completion of recording, the REC and PLAY switches will remain depressed, but the heads and transport mechanism will be completely disengaged.*
- *If the erasure prevention tabs are broken out of a cassette, the REC switch can still be depressed, but the recording operation will not be performed. Be sure to check the tape operation when recording.*

RECORDING STARTING IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION

1. Load a non-recorded cassette tape in the record/play deck.
   - Make sure that both of the erasure prevention tabs (side A and side B) on the cassette are intact.
2. Select the DOLBY NR setting.
3. Press the FUNCTION switch corresponding to the program source to be recorded (TUNER, CD, PHONO, VIDEO).
4. Set the REVERSE MODE switch to the (⟲) position
5. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch.
6. Press the REC (●) switch.
   - The deck will be set to the record pause mode.
7. Press the DIRECTION switch and set the deck to the reverse mode.
   - The record/play deck direction indicator will light.
8. Start playback of the program source to be recorded.
9. If so desired, set the graphic equalizer controls to modify the signal to be recorded.
10. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch.
    - The deck will be released from the pause mode and recording will start.
    - The tape stops automatically when recording in the reverse direction is finished.

PLAYBACK OF OTHER AUDIO COMPONENTS CONNECTED TO THIS UNIT

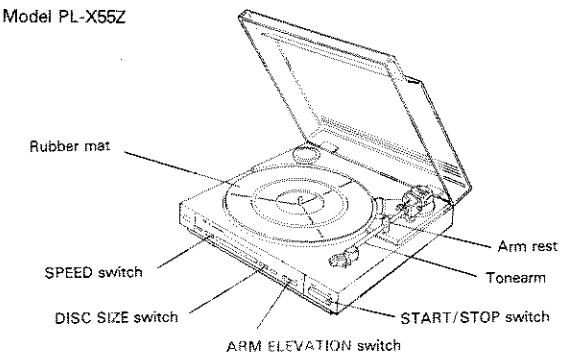
1. Press the function switch to select the desired components.

Component	FUNCTION switch
CD player	CD
Component connected to VIDEO jacks	VIDEO

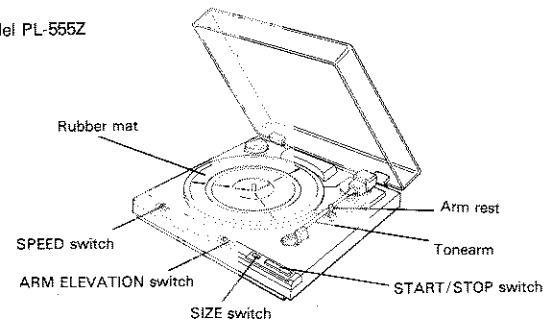
2. Start playback.
   For details on how to operate other components, refer to the operating instructions supplied with them.
3. Adjust the volume and tone as desired.

TURNTABLE

Model PL-X55Z



Model PL-555Z



PL-X33Z/PL-333Z

RECORD PLAY

1. Push the FUNCTION switch in the PHONO position on the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Place the record on the rubber mat.
3. Remove the stylus cover and release the tonearm from the arm rest.
4. Set the SPEED switch.
5. Move the arm elevation lever to the UP position.
6. Move the tonearm by hand across the record. At this stage, the platter starts to rotate.
7. Move the arm elevation switch to the DOWN position.

PL-X55Z/PL-555Z

RECORD PLAY (Auto play)

1. Push the FUNCTION switch in the PHONO position on the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Place the record on the rubber mat.
3. Remove the stylus cover and release the tone arm from the rest.
4. Set the SPEED and DISC SIZE (SIZE) switches.
5. Move the arm elevation switch to the DOWN position.
6. Push the START/ STOP switch to start record play.

NOTE:

- *When play is completed, the tonearm will return automatically to the arm rest.*
- *When playing 45 rpm records with large center holes, place the EP adaptor onto the platter shaft.*

Beginning Record Playback From Any Point (Manual Play)

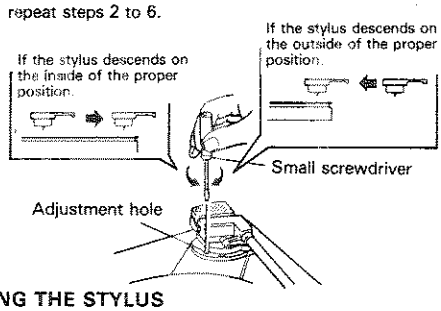
1. Push the FUNCTION switch in the PHONO position on the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Place the record on the rubber mat.
3. Remove the stylus cover and release the tonearm from the arm rest.
4. Set the SPEED switch.
5. Move the arm elevation switch to the UP position.
6. Move the tonearm by hand to the desired position over the record.
7. Move the arm elevation switch to the DOWN position.

- The tonearm will descend onto the record and playback will start.

ADJUSTING THE STYLUS DESCENT POSITION (Only PL-X55Z and PL-555Z)

Proceed as follows when the stylus does not descend at the proper position on the record during auto play. While performing the adjustment, take care not to scratch the record with the stylus.

1. Place a 30 cm LP record on the platter.
2. Push the START/STOP switch to start auto play. Check the direction and amount of stylus deviation (how many millimeters toward the inside or outside of the record's lead-in groove).
3. Push the START/ STOP switch to return the tonearm to the arm rest.
4. Set the arm elevation switch to the UP position and manually move the tonearm across the outside edge of the record.
5. Rotate the screw with a small screwdriver in accordance with the direction of the deviation observed in step 2.
   - Rotate the screw clockwise if the stylus descends on the outside of the proper position.
   - Rotate the screw counterclockwise if the stylus descends on the inside of the proper position.
6. Manually return the tonearm to the arm rest and set the arm elevation switch to the DOWN position.
7. Push the START/STOP switch and check that the stylus stops at the lead-in groove on the outer circumference of the record. If the position is still not correct, repeat steps 2 to 6.


If the stylus descends on the outside of the proper position.
If the stylus descends on the inside of the proper position.
Small screwdriver
Adjustment hole

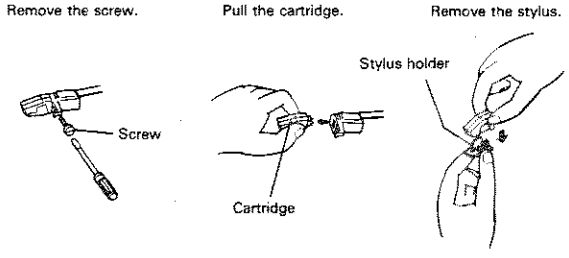
REPLACING THE STYLUS

1. Remove the screw.
2. Pull the cartridge.
3. Remove the stylus gently.
4. Attach the new stylus to the cartridge and replace the screw.

NOTE:

- *The service life of the stylus on the supplied cartridge ranges from 800 to 1,000 hours.*
- *Using a worn or damaged stylus can damage your records and distort the sound reproduction. Remember to replace the stylus at the earliest possible date.*
- *Always use the PIONEER "PN-295T" as a replacement stylus.*
- *Always ask for a genuine PIONEER replacement stylus.*

14P is the universal mark for the Plug-in connector system. Products carrying this mark are interchangeable and can be used together.

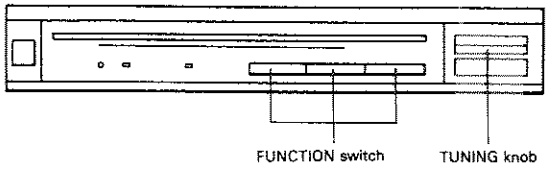


PRECAUTION:

If the turntable is mounted directly on or against a speaker, the vibration from the speaker will be transported to the tonearm's cartridge, thus causing feedback howling. Be sure that speakers are mounted sufficiently separated from the turntable.

TUNER

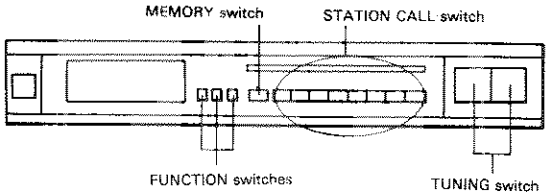
The illustration shows model F-X33ZL.
F-X33ZL/F-X33Z/TX-333ZL/TX-333Z



FM AND AM (MW/LW) RECEPTION

1. Push the FUNCTION swtich in the TUNER position on the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Push the appropriate function switch on the stereo tuner.
3. Rotate the tuning knob and tune in the desired station.

The illustration shows model F-X55ZL.
F-X55ZL/F-X55Z/TX-555ZL/TX-555Z



FM AND AM (MW/LW) RECEPTION

Manual Tuning

1. Push the FUNCTION switch in the TUNER position on the cassette deck amplifier.
2. Push the appropriate function switch on the stereo tuner.
3. Push the TUNING switches ("−" or "+") and tune in the desired station.

Memory Tuning

1. Begin receiving.
   - For manual tuning, refer to Manual Tuning.
2. Push the MEMORY switch. During the approximate ten seconds within which the memory circuit functions, push the desired STATION CALL switch to memorize the current frequency in that switch.
3. Repeat steps 1 through 2 to preset up to 16 stations.
   - This unit is fitted with a presetting function for memorizing stations independently on both FM and AM bands. Once the stations have been preset, all you have to do to recall them is push the STATION CALL switches. A total of 16 stations can be preset, a maximum of 8 for each band.

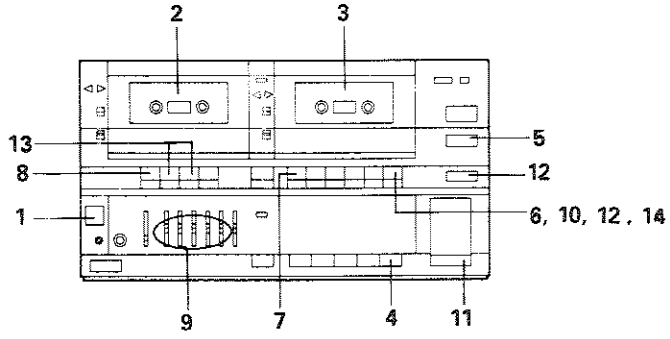
NOTE:
- *For AM band (MW or LW) a total of 8 stations can be preset. This can be all MW stations, all LW stations or a combination of both.*
- *The electrical circuit controlling the MEMORY function is powered by a back-up condenser so that the unit will retain preset stations for a number of days. If a preset station has been erased, reset it.*

Preset Tuning

First, select the FUNCTION switches to which you wish to listen. Then press the STATION CALL switch corresponding to the station you wish to listen to, and the station will be received simply and accurately.

TAPE DUBBING (Editing) [Only DC-X55Z and DC-555Z]

Illustration shows model DC-X55Z.



- By editing a tape as you copy it, you can make a tape containing only selected songs.
- The tape recorded on Deck II will always be recorded without noise reduction.

NOTE:
- *You can also start tape copying by pressing the PLAY switch of Deck I and the REC switch of Deck II at the same time. They should not be pressed together during tape editing.*
- *Tapes recorded using the tape editing function will be recorded without DOLBY noise reduction.*
  When playing them back, always turn the Dolby NR off.

1. Press the POWER switch to turn POWER on.
2. Load the original tape into Deck I.
3. Load the tape for recording into Deck II.
4. Press the TAPE FUNCTION switch.
5. If the original tape was recorded using Dolby noise reduction, set the DOLBY NR switch to the on position.
6. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch on Deck II.
7. Press the REC (●) switch on Deck II.
8. Press the PLAY (◀▶) switch on Deck I.
   - Play back the selection you wish to copy to the tape in Deck II.
9. If so desired, set the graphic equalizer controls to modify the signal to be recorded.
10. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch on Deck II.
    - Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch on Deck II to start recording.
11. Adjust the playback volume to the desired level.
12. When the desired selection is over, press either the PAUSE (▮▮) switch, or the REC MUTE switch followed by the PAUSE (▮▮) switch, to stop the tape in Deck II.
13. Locate the next selection to be copied to the tape in Deck II and start playback.
    - Use fast forward or rewind as needed.
14. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch on Deck II again.
    - Recording on Deck II will resume.

By repeating the above steps, you can assemble a tape containing only desired selections, in any order you choose.

USING THE REC MUTE SWITCH (function of Deck II only)

During recording, while the REC MUTE switch is held depressed (ON), input signals are not recorded, thus allowing you to create blank spaces on the tape.

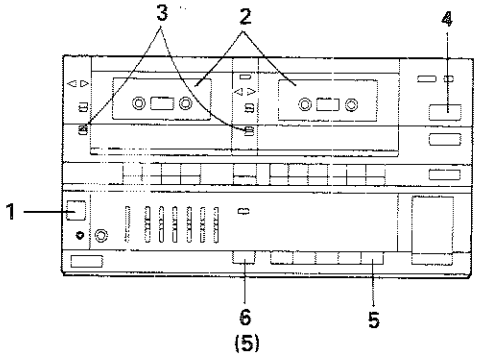
Creating blank intervals on a tape

1. Start recording according to the procedure given in the section "NORMAL RECORDING STARTING IN THE FORWARD DIRECTION" or "RECORDING STARTING IN THE REVERSE DIRECTION."
2. During recording, press the REC MUTE switch for about 4 seconds at the appropriate point to cut the signal to the deck and create a blank interval on the tape.
3. While holding the REC MUTE switch pressed, press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch again to suspend recording.
4. Press the PAUSE (▮▮) switch again to restart recording.

Be careful not to press the REC MUTE switch except when necessary.

COPYING TAPES [only DC-X55Z and DC-555Z]

Illustration shows model DC-X55Z.



Tape copying is accomplished by playing back the original on Deck I and recording on Deck II. (Note that the reverse is not possible.)

If a tape recorded using Dolby NR, is copied, the copy as well will have the same noise-reduction characteristics. Copies of tapes originally recorded without noise reduction will have no noise reduction effects.

- Tape copying with added graphic equalizer effects is not possible.
- Do not press the REC MUTE switch as this will create a blank interval on the tape.

COPYING WHILE LISTENING TO PLAYBACK

(The record indicator will flash slowly.)

1. Press the POWER switch to turn POWER on.
2. Load the original tape in Deck I and the tape for recording in Deck II.
3. Set the REVERSE MODE switch.
   - Make sure that the setting is the same for both decks when copying.
4. Press the COPY SPEED switch and set it to the NORMAL position.
5. Press the TAPE FUNCTION switch.
   Tape copying is possible regardless of the FUNCTION switch setting. However, the sound from the speakers will be that of the program source selected.
6. Press the SYNCHRO COPY switch.
   - Deck I will start playback and Deck II will start recording.
   - In the reverse mode, the tape will automatically stop when it reaches the end. The switches, however, will remain depressed.
   - Tape copy is unaffected by the volume and graphic equalizer settings.
   - Set the volume and graphic equalizer controls as desired.
7. To stop copying midway, press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch on both decks.

REVERSE MODE Switch		Operations
Deck I	Deck II	
⊂⊃	⊃	Double-side copy from Deck I to Deck II
⊃	—	Single-side copy from Deck I to Deck II

HIGH-SPEED COPYING

(The record indicator will flash rapidly.)

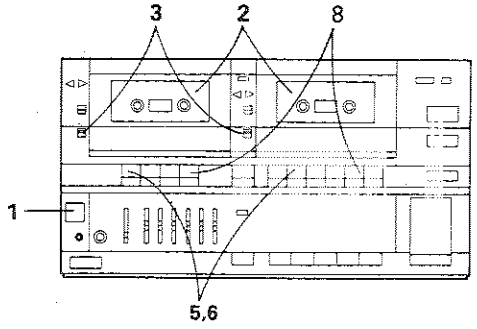
1. Press the POWER switch to turn power on.
2. Load the original tape in Deck I and the tape for recording in Deck II.
3. Set the REVERSE MODE switch.
   - Actual copy operations are the same as in the above section.
4. Press the COPY SPEED switch and set it to the HIGH position.
5. Press the SYNCHRO COPY switch.
   Tape copying is possible regardless of the FUNCTION switch setting. However, the sound from the speakers will be that of the program source selected.
   - In the reverse mode, the tape will automatically stop when it reaches the end. The switches, however, will remain depressed.

NOTE:
When using in the same room as a television set, position far enough away from the set to avoid interference, or turn off power to the television set.

RELAY PLAYBACK

(Uninterrupted playback from Deck I to Deck II or Deck II to Deck I) [only DC-X55Z and DC-555Z]

Illustration shows model DC-X55Z.
Playback can be started from either Deck I or Deck II.



Extended Relay Playback

Extended relay playback lasting 8 hours is possible when C-60 tapes are used, and playback lasting 12 hours is possible when C-90 tapes are used and the reverse mode switch for both decks is set to the (⊂⊃) position.

1. Press the POWER switch to turn power on.
2. Load pre-recorded tapes in both decks.
3. Set the reverse mode switch for Deck I and Deck II.

- Relay playback will be performed according to the setting of the mode switches as shown here.

Playback Method	Deck I	Deck II
Extended relay playback	⊂⊃	⊂⊃
One roundtrip on each deck	⊃	⊃
Continuous playback on Deck I	⊂⊃	⊃
Continuous playback on Deck II	⊃	⊂⊃

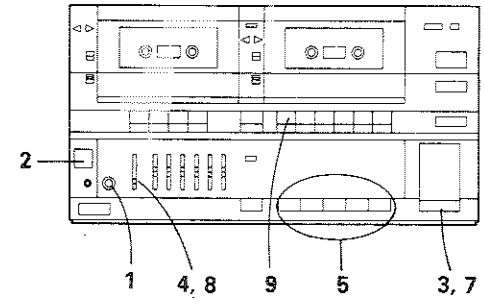
4. Search for the start of the first desired program on the tapes in deck I and deck II.
5. Press the PLAY (◁·) switch on the deck to be started first.
   - Playback starts.
6. Press the PLAY (◁·) switch on the other deck.
   - This deck is now set to the relay playback stand-by mode and will start playback when the deck started first stops or is set to the pause mode.
7. Relay playback will take place according to the method selected in step 3, after which both decks will stop automatically.

Extended Relay Playback	Stops after
One roundtrip on each deck	Stops after 1 roundtrip on each deck
Continuous playback on Deck I	1 roundtrip on Deck II followed by 8 roundtrips on Deck I
Continuous playback on Deck II	1 roundtrip on Deck I followed by 8 roundtrips on Deck II

8. To stop relay playback, press the STOP/EJECT (■/⏏) switch on both decks.

MIC MIXING FOR SINGING ALONG WITH RECORDED ACCOMPANIMENT

The illustration shows model DC-X55Z.



MIXING KNOW-HOW

Mixing involves combining the signals from two input sources (a microphone and a tape, for example).

SINGING ALONG WITH A TAPE

1. Plug a microphone into the MIC jack.
2. Press the POWER switch to turn power on.
3. Adjust the volume to a suitable level.
4. Set the MIC MIXING control to the center position.
   - If howling occurs (a high-pitched sound from the speakers), take the following steps.
     (1) Move the mic away from the speakers.
     (2) Lower the volume.
5. Select the desired program source using the FUNCTION switches.
6. Start playback of the program source.
7. Adjust the overall volume.
8. Using the MIC MIXING control, adjust the sound balance between the mic and the program source.
9. Start recording on cassette tape deck amplifier
10. Sing along with the program using the microphone.
    Because both MIC and SOURCE inputs are controlled together by the mixing function, the mixing control can also be used as a manual fader when recording.
    - Fading refers to the recording technique in which the volume of an input source is gradually increased or decreased.

MIXING RECORDING

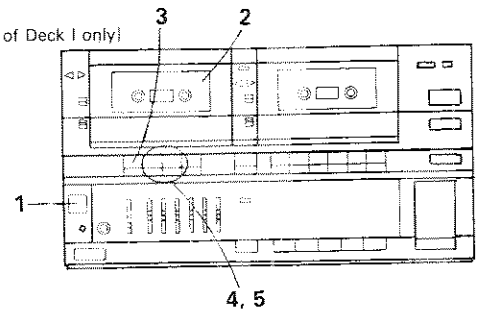
You can use the mixing feature to record input from a microphone and another source together.

1. Perform steps 1 to 8 in the section "SINGING ALONG WITH A TAPE."
2. Load a tape for recording into record/play deck.
3. Press the REC (●) switch on record/play deck.
4. Sing along with the program source.

MUSIC SEARCH [only DC-X55Z and DC-555Z]

Illustration shows model DC-X55Z.

(Function of Deck I only)



The Music Search Function works to detect blank intervals (4 seconds or more) between recorded selections during fast forward or rewind, and starts playback automatically at the start of a selection.

1. Press the POWER switch to turn power on.
2. Load prerecorded tapes in Deck I.
3. Press the PLAY (◀●) switch.
4. To skip to the start of the selection following the one currently playing, press the fast forward switch.
5. To skip back to the start of the selection currently playing, press the rewind switch.

In the Forward Mode:
To repeat the same selection, press the FAST (≪) switch. To skip to the next selection, press the FAST (≫) switch.

In the Reverse Mode:
To repeat the same selection, press the FAST (≫) switch. To skip to the next selection, press the FAST (≪) switch.

6. When the blank interval between selections is detected, playback will start automatically.

NOTE:
Note that the Music Search Function may not work properly with the following types of tapes. Such malfunctioning does not indicate a problem with the cassette deck.

- *Tapes with intervals shorter than 4 seconds between selections.*
- *Tapes having a high noise level between selections.*
- *Tapes containing music (such as classical) with extended quiet passages, or blank intervals within a selection.*
- *Tapes containing voice recordings with pauses and silent passages.*
- *Tapes containing selections with extremely quiet passages that last for 4 seconds or more.*
- *Tapes whose recording level is very low, resulting in quiet passages that last for 4 seconds or more.*

SURROUND SYSTEM

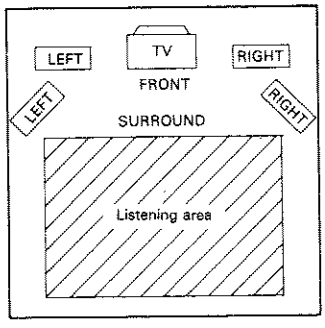
What is surround sound?

With ordinary stereo, sound normally comes only from speakers in front of the listener. In a concert hall or theatre though, sound reflected from the walls and ceiling reaches the listener from all directions. This is what accounts for the feeling of ambience or spaciousness of a live performance. Surround sound works to reproduce these effects to produce fuller, more "live" sound.

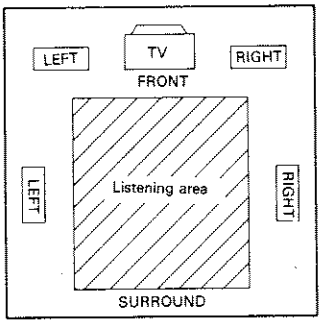
NOTE:
If the S-X1A surround speaker systems (sold separately) are used they will reproduce normal stereo sound when the SURROUND/STEREO WIDE switch is not pressed.

Constructing a Surround System

Example A:
The sound takes on added depth which is effective when watching a movie.



Example B:
A sound field created as if play were being conducted in front of the listener.



Speaker System Placement Examples

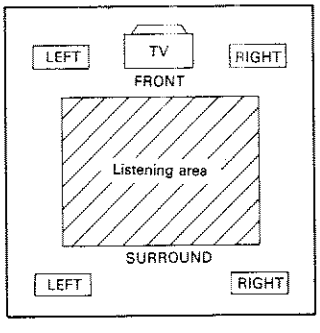
The sound effects obtained in a surround system depend on speaker placement. Experiment with various arrangements to find the one most suited to your tastes.
Placing the speakers so that they are slightly higher than earlevel contributes to sound quality.

[Case A]
Good sound dispersion; recommended for movies, etc.

[Case B]
Sound appears to come from directly in front of listener. Good for listening to music recordings.

[Case C]
Offers most varied effects; good for watching sports programs or listening to live recordings.

Stereo Wide
Even if surround speakers are not used, pressing the SURROUND/STEREO WIDE switch will result in a wider stereo image and a greater sense of presence.



Example C:
An ambience resembling that of a concert hall or theater.

RECORDING AND PLAYBACK USING THE AUDIO TIMER

UNATTENDED RECORDING

1. Set the POWER switch of the cassette deck amplifier to OFF and connect the power cord to the outlet on the audio timer.
2. Set the POWER switches of components to be used to ON.
3. Load a tape for recording in the record/play deck.
4. Select the DOLBY NR switch.
5. Press the TUNER function switch and tune in the station to be recorded.
6. Turn down the volume.
7. Set the audio timer so that the power comes on at the desired time. (Power to the components should be off at this point.)
8. Press the REC (●) switch.
9. Power will be turned on automatically at the preset time, and recording in the forward direction will start.

WAKE-UP PLAYBACK

1. Set the POWER switch of the cassette tape deck amplifier to OFF and connect the cassette tape deck amplifier's power cord to the audio timer.
2. Set the POWER switches of the components to ON.
3. Select the DOLBY NR switch.
4. Load the tape which is to be played back.
5. Adjust the volume control to produce the level of volume required when timer playback starts.
6. Set the time on the audio timer so that the power comes on at the desired time (this action switches off the power to the audio components).
7. Press the Play (◁•) switch. At the preset time, the power is switched on and the playback starts automatically.
   Only models DC-X55Z and DC-555Z.
   Depress both Play (◁•) switches. Deck I and Deck II.
   At the preset time, the POWER is switched on and the relay playback (from Deck I to Deck II) starts automatically.

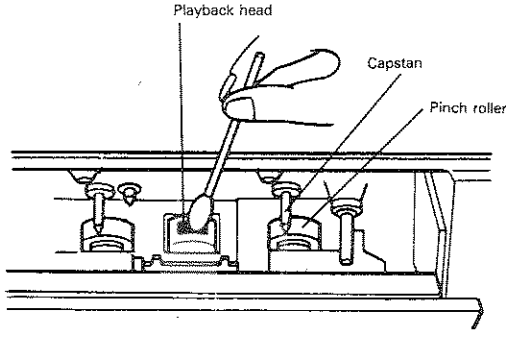
Operations will vary according to the audio timer used. For details, see the operating instructions supplied with the timer.

MAINTENANCE

CLEANING THE HEAD SECTION

The heads, capstan and pinch roller are parts which are liable to get dirty quite easily. In particular, if the heads are dirty, the high frequency components of the sound will not be reproduced and the stereo balance will be impaired, resulting in a deterioration in sound quality. It is therefore recommended that the head section be cleaned regularly.

1. Press the STOP/EJECT (■/≙) switch to open the cassette door.
2. Dip a cleaning swab into the cleaning fluid and use it to wipe the heads, capstan, and pinch roller.



NOTE:

- *This unit uses a head-slant standby system, with the result that the heads are mounted at an angled position.*
- *Clean the rec/playback head as shown in the above drawing.*

DEMAGNETIZING THE HEAD

The rec/playback head becomes magnetized when you use the tape deck for prolonged periods of time. This results in noise being generated and the treble dropping off during recording and playback. The rec/playback head should therefore be demagnetized regularly with a head demagnetizer (sold separately). For further details, refer to the operating instructions accompanying your head demagnetizer.

NOTE:

- *Do not hold screwdrivers, metal objects, or magnets close to the heads.*
- *When demagnetizing the heads, be sure the unit's POWER switch is in the OFF position.*

TROUBLESHOOTING

Incorrect operations are often mistaken for trouble and malfunctions. If you think that there is something wrong with this component, check the points below. Sometimes the trouble may lie in another component. Investigate the other components and electrical appliances being used.
If the trouble cannot be rectified even after exercising the checks listed below, ask your nearest PIONEER authorized service center or your dealer to carry out repair work.

Cassette Deck/Amp

Symptom	Cause	Remedy
No sound from speakers.	• Is volume level turned down?	• Increase volume level.
Tape deck will not work.	• Is deck in pause mode? • Is tape loaded correctly?	• Press PAUSE (▮▮) switch to release pause mode. • Load correctly.
No sound from tape deck.	• Is TAPE FUNCTION switch selected? • Is a blank tape loaded?	• Press TAPE FUNCTION switch. • Load a pre-recorded tape.
Recording not possible.	• Is tape loaded in Deck I?	• Load blank in Deck II for recording.
High frequency sounds not reproduced.	• Are heads clean? • Is a non-Dolby tape being played back with the Dolby system on?	• Clean heads. • Turn off the Dolby system.
High frequencies over-emphasized.	• Is a Dolby tape being played back with the Dolby system off?	• Turn on the Dolby system.
Noise picked up during recording of tape, record, radio, etc.	• Is power to TV set turned on? • Is unit located too close to TV set?	• Turn off TV set. • Move unit at least 30 cm from TV set.

Stereo Tuner

No sound.	• Is TUNER FUNCTION switch selected?	• Select TUNER FUNCTION switch.
AM reception not possible.	• Is loop antenna connected? • Is band selector switch set to AM? • Is station tuned in properly?	• Connect loop antenna. • Press AM switch. • Tune in station properly.
FM reception not possible.	• Is antenna connected? • Is band selector switch set to correct position?	• Connect antenna, following instructions on page 4. • Set switch properly, following instructions on page 7.
Large amount of noise	• Are radio waves weak, causing antenna input to be insufficient?	• Switch OFF the CD player.

Turntable

Turntable does not work.	• Is drive belt properly attached?	• Attach belt correctly.
No sound.	• Is PHONO FUNCTION switch selected?	• Select PHONO FUNCTION switch.
Static, scratching noise produced.	• Is record surface dirty? • Is record warped or scratched?	• Clean record. • Replace record.
Stylus does not descend at correct position.	• Is descend position set correctly? • Is record a special color or size?	• Adjust descent position as explained on page 11. • Change record or play back manually.)

SPECIFICATIONS

DC-X55Z/DC-555Z

AMPLIFIER SECTION

Continous Average Power Output is 40 Watts* per channel, min., at 8 ohms from 40 Hertz to 20,000 Hertz, with no more than 0.3% total harmonic distortion.

**Measured pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission's Trade Regulation rules on Power Output Claims for Amplifiers.*

Continuous Power Output
- 40 to 20,000Hz ..... 40 W + 40 W (T.H.D. 0.3% 8 ohms)
- 1 kHz (DIN) ..... 50 W + 50 W (T.H.D. 1% 8 ohms)
- 1 kHz (DIN music power) ..... 70 W + 70 W (T.H.D. 1% 8 ohms)
- PMPO ..... 140 W + 140 W

Hum and Noise (IHF, short-circuited, A network)
- PHONO ..... 72 dB

Hum and Noise (DIN continous Power/50 mV)
- PHONO ..... 68 dB/60 dB

Total Harmonic Distortion (40 Hz to 20,000 Hz, 8 ohms)
- 20 Watts per channel power output ..... No more than 0.2%

Tape Deck Section

Systems ..... 4 track, 2-channel stereo
Heads ..... "Hard Permalloy" recording/playback head x 1
"Hard Permalloy" playback head x 1
"Ferrite" erasing head x 1
Motor ..... DC servo 2 speed motor x 2
Wow and Flutter ..... No more than 0.09% (WRMS)
Fast Winding Time ..... Approximately 100 seconds (C-60 tape)
Frequency Response
- −20 dB recording:
- Normal tape ..... 35 Hz to 14,000 Hz ±6 dB
- CrO_2 ..... 35 Hz to 15,000 Hz ±6 dB
- Metal tape ..... 35 Hz to 16,000 Hz ±6 dB

Signal-to-Noise Ratio
- Dolby NR OFF ..... 56 dB

Noise Reduction Effect
- Dolby B type NR ON ..... More than 10 dB (at 5 kHz)

Furnished Parts

Operating Instructions 1
Turntable legs parts (only DC-X55Z) 2

Miscellaneous

Power requirements
U.S., Canadian models ..... AC 120 V, 60 Hz
European model ..... AC 220 V, 50/60Hz
U.K. model ..... AC 240 V, 50/60 Hz
Other destination models
..... AC 110/120/220/240 V (switchable) 50/60 Hz

Power Consumption

U.S., Canadian models ..... 230 W (CSA 260 VA)
European model ..... 380 W
U.K. and Australian models ..... 380 W
Other destination models ..... 230 W
Dimensions
- DC-X55Z ..... 360(W) x 190(H) x 283 (D) mm
  14-3/16(W) x 7-7/16(H) x 11-1/8(D) in
- DC-555Z ..... 420(W) x 190(H) x 283(D) mm
  16-9/16(W) x 7-7/16(H) x 11-1/8(D) in

Weight (without package)
- DC-X55Z ..... 7.4 kg (16 lb 5 oz)
- DC-555Z ..... 7.6 kg (16 lb 5 oz)

DC-X33Z/DC-333Z

AMPLIFIER SECTION

Continous Average Power Output is 25 Watts* per channel, min., at 8 ohms from 40 Hertz to 20,000 Hertz, with no more than 0.3% total harmonic distortion.

**Measured pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission's Trade Regulation rules on Power Output Claims for Amplifiers.*

Continuous Power Output
- 40 to 20,000Hz ..... 25 W + 25 W (T.H.D. 0.3% 8 ohms)
- 1 kHz (DIN) ..... 32 W + 32 W (T.H.D. 1% 8 ohms)
- 1 kHz (DIN music power) ..... 45 W + 45 W (T.H.D. 1% 8 ohms)
- PMPO ..... 90 W + 90 W

Hum and Noise (IHF, short-circuited, A network)
- PHONO ..... 72 dB

Hum and Noise (DIN continous Power/50 mV)
- PHONO ..... 68 dB/60 dB

Total Harmonic Distortion (40 Hz to 20,000 Hz, 8 ohms)
- 12.5 Watts per channel power output ..... No more than 0.2%

Tape Deck Section

Systems ..... 4 track, 2-channel stereo
Heads ..... "Hard Permalloy" recording/playback head x 1
"Ferrite" erasing head x 1
Motor ..... DC servo motor x 1
Wow and Flutter ..... No more than 0.09% (WRMS)
Fast Winding Time ..... Approximately 100 seconds (C-60 tape)
Frequency Response
- −20 dB recording:
- Normal tape ..... 35 Hz to 14,000 Hz
- CrO_2 ..... 35 Hz to 15,000 Hz
- Metal tape ..... 35 Hz to 16,000 Hz

Signal-to-Noise Ratio
- Dolby NR OFF ..... 55 dB

Noise Reduction Effect
- Dolby B type NR ON ..... More than 10 dB (at 5 kHz)

Furnished Parts

Operating Instructions 1
Turntable legs parts (Only DC-X33Z) 2

Miscellaneous

Power requirements
U.S., Canadian models ..... AC 120 V, 60 Hz
European model ..... AC 220 V, 50/60Hz
U.K. model ..... AC 240 V, 50/60 Hz
Other destination models
..... AC 110/120/220/240 V (switchable) 50/60 Hz

Power Consumption

U.S., Canadian models ..... 150 W (CSA 180 VA)
European model ..... 230 W
U.K. and Australian models ..... 230 W
Other destination models ..... 150 W
Dimensions
- DC-X33Z ..... 360(W) x 190(H) x 283 (D) mm
  14-3/16(W) x 7-7/16(H) x 11-1/8(D) in
- DC-333Z ..... 420(W) x 190(H) x 283(D) mm
  16-9/16(W) x 7-7/16(H) x 11-1/8(D) in

Weight (without package)
- DC-X33Z ..... 6.4 kg (14 lb 2 oz)
- DC-333Z ..... 6.6 kg (14 lb 9 oz)

F-X55ZL/F-X55Z/TX-555ZL/TX-555Z

FM Tuner Section

Frequency range ..... 87.5 MHz to 108 MHz
Usable Sensitivity ..... 11.2 dBf, IHF (1.0 μV/75 ohms)
Sensitivity (DIN) ..... Mono: 0.9 μV/75 ohms
Stereo: 31.5 μV/75 ohms
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (IHF, 85 dBf Input) ..... Mono: 77 dB
Stereo: 73 dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (DIN) ..... Mono: 66 dB
Stereo: 60 dB
Distortion ..... Stereo: 0.4% (1 kHz)
Alternate Channel Selectivity ..... 67 dB (400 kHz)
Stereo Separation ..... 40 dB (1 kHz)
Antenna Input ..... 300 ohm balanced
75 ohm unbalanced

MW (AM) Tuner Section

Frequency range ..... 530 kHz to 1,600 kHz when 10 kHz step
531 kHz to 1,602 kHz when 9 kHz step
Sensitivity (IHF, Loop antenna) ..... 300 μV/m
Signal-to-Noise Ratio ..... 50 dB
Antenna ..... Loop Antenna

LW Tuner Section (For LW-equipped models only)

Frequency range ..... 153 kHz to 281 kHz

Miscellaneous

Dimensions
F-X55ZL and F-X55Z ..... 360(W) x 56(H) x 215(D) mm
14-3/16(W) x 2-3/16(H) x 8-7/16(D) in
TX-555ZL and TX-555Z ..... 420(W) x 56(H) 215(D) mm
16-9/16(W) x 2-3/16(H) x 8-7/16(D) in
Weight (without package)
F-X55ZL and F-X55Z ..... 1.8 kg (4 lb)
TX-555ZL and TX-555Z ..... 2.0 kg (4 lb 6 oz)

Furnished Parts

FM T-type Antenna 1
AM Loop Antenna 1
Tuner input/output cord 1

F-X33ZL/F-X33Z/TX-333ZL/TX-333Z

FM Tuner Section

Frequency range ..... 87.5 MHz to 108 MHz
Usable Sensitivity ..... 15.3 dBf, IHF (1.6 μV/75 ohms)
Sensitivity (DIN) ..... Mono: 1.3 μV/75 ohms
Stereo: 35.4 μV/75 ohms
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (IHF, 85dBf Input) ..... Mono: 77 dB
Stereo: 73 dB
Signal-to-Noise Ratio (DIN) ..... Mono: 66 dB
Stereo: 60 dB
Distortion ..... Stereo: 0.4% (1 kHz)
Alternate Channel Selectivity ..... 55 dB (400 kHz)
Stereo Separation ..... 40 dB (1 kHz)
Antenna Input ..... 300 ohm balanced
75 ohm unbalanced

MW (AM) Tuner Section

Frequency range ..... 531 kHz to 1,602 kHz
Sensitivity (IHF, Loop antenna) ..... 250 μV/m
Signal-to-Noise Ratio ..... 50 dB
Antenna ..... Loop Antenna

LW Tuner Section (For LW-equipped models only)

Frequency range ..... 153 kHz to 281 kHz

Miscellaneous

Dimensions
F-X33ZL and F-X33Z ..... 360(W) x 56(H) x 217(D) mm
14-3/16(W) x 2-3/16(H) x 8-8/16(D) in
TX-333ZL and TX-333Z ..... 420(W) x 56(H) x 217(D) mm
16-9/16(W) x 2-3/16(H) x 8-8/16(D) in
Weight (without package)
F-X33ZL and F-X33Z ..... 1.6 kg (3 lb 8 oz)
TX-333ZL and TX-333Z ..... 1.8 kg (4 lb)

Furnished Parts

FM T-type Antenna 1
AM Loop Antenna 1
Tuner input/output cord 1

PL-X55Z/PL-X33Z/PL-555Z/PL-333Z

Motor, Platter

Motor Type ..... DC servo motor
Drive Method ..... belt drive
Speed ..... 33-1/3, 45 RPM
Speed Variation ..... 0.05% WRMS (JIS) ± 0.07% WTD Peak (DIN)
S/N Ratio ..... 68 dB (DIN-B)
Platter ..... 304 mm dia., aluminum die-cast

Tonearm

Type ..... static-balance type, straight tonearm

Installed Cartridge (PC-295T)

Type ..... MM type
Replacement Stylus PN-295T
Stylus ..... 0.6 mil diamond
Output voltage ..... 2.5 mV (1 kHz, 5 cm/s, Lat. peak)
Tracking Force ..... 1 — 1.5 g (optimum 1.25 g)
Frequency Response ..... 10 Hz to 30,000 Hz
Load Resistance ..... 50 kΩ
Cartridge Weight ..... 6 g

Other

Dimensions
PL-X55Z and PL-X33Z ..... 360 W x 96.5 H x 384 D (mm)
PL-555Z and PL-333Z ..... 420(W) x 99(H) x 374(D) mm
16-9/16(W) x 3-1/8(H) x 14-3/4(D) in
Weight
PL-X55Z ..... 3.2 kg (7 lb 1 oz)
PL-X33Z ..... 3.1 kg (6 lb 14 oz)
PL-555Z ..... 3.7 kg (8 lb 3 oz)
PL-333Z ..... 3.7 kg (8 lb 3 oz)

Accessories

45-RPM Adaptor 1

SYSTEM ACCESSORIES

Operating Instructions 1

Specifications and design subject to possible modifications without notice due to improvement.

PIONEER ELECTRONIC CORPORATION 4-1, Meguro 1-Chome, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153, Japan
PIONEER ELECTRONICS [USA] INC. 5000 Airport Plaza Drive P.O. Box 1720, Long Beach, California 90801-1720 U.S.A.
PIONEER ELECTRONIC [EUROPE] N.V. Keetberglaan 1, 2740 Beveren, Belgium TEL: 03/775·28·08
PIONEER ELECTRONICS AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. 178-184 Boundary Road, Braeside, Victoria 3195, Australia TEL: [03] 580-9911

<86J16Y0D07>

Printed in Japan <ARB1001-D>